

# Jardin de Gracia



*Fifth Grade first day of school 2015*

## Welcome Back to School 2015

Thank you for supporting Jardin de Gracia with so much love these past 12 years. Things have definitely changed at Jardin but our mission remains the same. To reach the poorest children in our community, to teach them to read so that they can read the Bible to their families.

We added new curriculum this year across the board. Every classroom received new text books in every subject. The majority of the new text books are Christian based, and we believe that it will help us reach our mission much more effectively.

Last year we were blessed with a donation for several big items. We have purchased desks or other large classroom

furniture that was needed in our classrooms (some of our desks were here from the first days of the school). We also received a donation for a new bus. A bus has been harder to locate just because there is no “used bus store” here & because our budget is limited. We are excited to have a small bus to use for many reasons but the biggest one is field trips. Field trips for the kids will broaden their world in another way that books cannot.

Our new classroom management plan is working great. It has been a wonderful thing for our kids and teachers alike. We have a beautiful school creed and are more focused in our themes. It’s a great start to a new year!



*The Muellers are serving as our first long term interns since early 2000.*

### Meet the Muellers

We’d like to introduce you to Kala & Matt Mueller. They will be working at Jardin de Gracia with us in 2015. They are raising support, visiting family & preparing to be away from “home” for almost a year. Their main goal is to learn Spanish. They are involved in ministry with Everyday Church in New York City and are heavily involved with the Dominican population in their area. They are community minded, strong, Jesus followers and we are blessed beyond measure to have them working with us this year. Kala will be working with our Kindergarten program and Matt will be working with our English and PE programs at Jardin de Gracia. Please be in prayer for them as they make the transition to life in Honduras.

# Frequently Asked Questions

*How many children are at the school?*

This year we have 155 in total. They break down into 71 girls and 84 boys. Our ministerial reach is about 124 separate families in the El Socorro area.

*How can I help the school & what do you need?* Helping at the school can take many forms. It could be that you sponsor a specific child, send monthly support, pray for the school/teachers/families daily, or you could raise awareness of what we are doing or actually make the trip to Honduras to see us in action. All of those forms of help are necessary. We cannot do any work without prayer partners or support checks, and no one would know what we are doing if we didn't have those people that raise awareness or make the trips. As far as what we need... We need some roofs. The library/team sleeping room roof needs to be replaced - it's not a job for a team. The new outdoor tables also need a roof. We would like to hire some local workers to do this work.

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## Oh how we love to have visitors!

This year is shaping up to be a great year for visitors! By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have hosted 4 teams of sweet, loving people. They come from everywhere & do all kinds of things. We've had 2 dentist teams come so far. One was our regular Dr. Brown and the other was our new "follow-up" dentist Dr. Lori Smith. They both did wonderful things and are committed to helping the families in El Socorro with dental health. They were both a pleasure to have on campus.

We've also had 2 construction/general work teams. At the beginning of the school year, we always have little projects that need to be done. Recovering and rebuilding student desks, fixing fences, laying tiles... and little time consuming jobs that need attention. We are more than blessed to have people that want to give a week to us in this way. They sacrifice their weeks of vacation, time with their families, and hard earned money to be with us. Their visits encourage us beyond belief. They pour love into the school and you can feel the energy while they are here. They are leaving a legacy of love at Jardin de Gracia. If you are interested in coming to visit - let us know! Our contact information is in the rectangle above.

